

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
GULF OF MEXICO REGION  
**ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT**

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **17-FEB-2009** TIME: **0730** HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **Chevron U.S.A. Inc.**  
REPRESENTATIVE: **Chris Williams**  
TELEPHONE: **(985) 534-6738**  
CONTRACTOR:  
REPRESENTATIVE:  
TELEPHONE:

3. OPERATOR/CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/SUPERVISOR  
ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:

4. LEASE: **00374**  
AREA: **MP** LATITUDE: **29.399934**  
BLOCK: **41** LONGITUDE: **-88.969722**

5. PLATFORM: **O**  
RIG NAME:

6. ACTIVITY: ☐ EXPLORATION (POE)  
☒ DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION  
(DOCD/POD)

7. TYPE:

☐ HISTORIC INJURY  
☐ REQUIRED EVACUATION  
☐ LTA (1-3 days)  
☐ LTA (>3 days)  
☐ RW/JT (1-3 days)  
☐ RW/JT (>3 days)  
☐ Other Injury

☐ FATALITY  
☒ POLLUTION  
☐ FIRE  
☐ EXPLOSION

LWC ☐ HISTORIC BLOWOUT  
☐ UNDERGROUND  
☐ SURFACE  
☐ DEVERTER  
☐ SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

COLLISION ☐ HISTORIC ☐ >\$25K ☐ <=\$25K

☐ STRUCTURAL DAMAGE  
☐ CRANE  
☐ OTHER LIFTING DEVICE  
☐ DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.  
☐ INCIDENT >\$25K  
☐ H2S/15MIN./20PPM  
☐ REQUIRED MUSTER  
☐ SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE  
☐ OTHER

6. OPERATION:

☒ PRODUCTION  
☐ DRILLING  
☐ WORKOVER  
☐ COMPLETION  
☐ HELICOPTER  
☐ MOTOR VESSEL  
☐ PIPELINE SEGMENT NO.  
☐ OTHER

8. CAUSE:

☒ EQUIPMENT FAILURE  
☐ HUMAN ERROR  
☐ EXTERNAL DAMAGE  
☐ SLIP/TRIP/FALL  
☐ WEATHER RELATED  
☐ LEAK  
☐ UPSET H2O TREATING  
☐ OVERBOARD DRILLING FLUID  
☐ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

9. WATER DEPTH: **51** FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **14** MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: **SE**  
SPEED: **14** M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION: **NW**  
SPEED: **2** M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: FT.

17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

On February 17, 2009, at approximately 0730 hours a pollution event occurred at Chevron U.S.A. Inc.'s Lease OCS 00374, Main Pass Block 41, O Platform. At the time of the incident, Chevron's operator was enroute to the platform when he observed an oil slick originating from the platform. After investigating, he found the pipeline surge pump, PBA 1208, had a ruptured seal. The operator shut down the platform, closed the inlet and outlet valves on the pump. After troubleshooting the problem, he gathered field personnel to assist in the clean up process. The incident resulted in the release of 90.86 gallons of oil into Gulf waters. At approximately 0930 hours, a MMS Inspector flying over the Main Pass Block 41 area observed the oil slick, approximately 5 miles long by 5 miles wide, and he landed to investigate. The platform was up when the MMS Inspector landed to investigate. Due to the extent of the oil accumulation on the production deck, the MMS Inspector had the lead operator shut-in the platform until the oil was cleaned from the deck. There was a threat to personnel on the platform, due to a possible fire hazard and possible injuries from slipping on the very slick oily deck.

18. LIST THE PROBABLE CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

**Equipment Failure:**

**A blown gasket seal on the pipeline pump flange.**

19. LIST THE CONTRIBUTING CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

**No physical property damage.**

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

**N/A**

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

**\$**

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

**The MMS New Orleans District makes no recommendations to the MMS Regional Office of Safety Management (OSM).**

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: **YES**

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

**E-100 - Pollution - Shut-in.**

**G-110 - Pollution - Shut-in.**

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

**17-FEB-2009**

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

**Elbert Clemens /**

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

**David Trocquet**

APPROVED

DATE: **24-JUN-2009**

# POLLUTION ATTACHMENT

1. VOLUME: GAL 2.16 BBL

1333 YARDS LONG X 3333 YARDS WIDE

APPEARANCE: SILVERY SHEEN

2. TYPE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: ☒ OIL  
☐ DIESEL  
☐ CONDENSATE  
☐ HYDRAULIC  
☐ NATURAL GAS  
☐ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

3. SOURCE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: A blown gasket seal on the pipeline pump flange.

4. WERE SAMPLES TAKEN? NO

5. WAS CLEANUP EQUIPMENT ACTIVATED? YES

IF SO, TYPE: ☐ SKIMMER  
☐ CONTAINMENT BOOM  
☒ ABSORPTION EQUIPMENT  
☒ DISPERSANTS  
☐ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

6. ESTIMATED RECOVERY: 0 GAL BBL

7. RESPONSE TIME: 1 HOURS

8. IS THE POLLUTION IN THE PROXIMITY OF AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA (CLASS I)? YES

9. HAS REGION OIL SPILL TASK FORCE BEEN NOTIFIED? NO

10. CONTACTED SHORE: NO IF YES, WHERE:

11. WERE ANY LIVE ANIMALS OBSERVED NEAR: YES

12. WERE ANY OILED OR DEAD ANIMALS OBSERVED NEAR SPILL: NO